Houghton-le-Spring.
February 27th 1899.

Dear Sir,

I beg herewith to enclose copy of my yearly report for 1898 which was read before the Urban District Council of Houghton-le-Spring, at the last meeting of that Authority held on the 6th inst.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
[illegible]
Medical Officer.

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Houghton-le-Spring.
February 13th. 1899.

To the Rural District Council of
Houghton-le-Spring.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is again my duty to lay before you my Annual Report for the Northern Division of the Houghton-le-Spring Union for the year ending December 31st 1898.

Accompanying my report, are the tables "A" and "B" of the Local Government Board, the former relating to the deaths, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities and the latter to the New Cases of Sickness that have occurred during the year.

Deaths. It will be seen from table "A" that 252 deaths have been registered in this division of the Union, but as 11 deaths occurred to persons outside the district but belonging to this division of the Union, the total number upon which the mortality must be based becomes increased to 263. Of the total number of deaths 142 occurred to children under the age of five years. If we estimate the population at the middle of the year, as requested by the Local Government Board at 14.816 this is equivalent to a death-rate of 17.6 per 1.000 per annum and an infant mortality of 54.4 per cent.

The death-rate under one year per 1.000 registered births is 220.9
The following table gives the rates of mortality for the last four years:-

Year	Death-rate per 1.000 per annum.	Infant mortality.
1895	18.2	47.6
1896	18.6	60.6
1897	16.6	52.3
1898	17.6	54.4

The 135 deaths included under "All other diseases", and not provided for in any of the Forms of the Local Government Board were due to the following causes:-

Scrofulous diseases	6
Cancer	8
Dis. of the Nervous System	15
Convulsions	14
Atrophy	13
Dis. of the Digestive Organs	20
Dis. of the Urinary Organs	9
Child-birth	2
Premature birth	26
Old age	17
All other diseases	5
	135 Total

The following table gives the death-rate from the principal Zymotic diseases including Phthisis and the Acute diseases of the lungs for the last three years:-

No.	Diseases.	1896	1897	1898
1.	Small Pox.	—	—	—
2.	Scarlet Fever.	2.7	—	.54
3.	Diphtheria & Croup.	—	.20	.06
4.	Typhoid & Continued Fever.	.70	.35	.04
5.	Measles.	.84	—	.27
6.	Whooping Cough.	.42	.20	.7
7.	Diarrhœa & Dysentery.	.35	.28	1.2
8.	Phthisis.	1.2	1.05	.7
9.	Acute dis. of the lungs.	3.04	2.45	1.8

<u>Births</u>. The births for the year number 507 -

269 Males.

238 Females.

which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 34.2 per 1.000 per annum and a natural increase to the population of 246.

The following table gives the number of births - male and female including birth-rate for the last four years:-

Year	Births	Males.	Females.	Rate.	Increase.
1895	507	256	251	36.3	253
1896	539	288	251	38.1	275
1897	522	269	253	37.	283
1898	507	269	238	34.2	246

<u>New Cases of Sickness</u>:- Table "B" of the Local Government Board, as I have said, gives the population and the births and the New Cases of Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical

Officer of Health during the past year. I am unable, however, to apportion the births to the various parishes as I am not furnished with the necessary information; nor am I able to estimate the population of the different parishes and give the death-rate appropriate to each, as required by the Local Government Board. The deaths, of course, are properly localized in the returns of the Registrar, but the births occurring in the whole district are simply given without reference to the parishes in which they take place.

Infectious Disease Notification Act. This Act has been in force in this division of the Union since January 1890.

On receiving the Notification Forms it is my invariable practice to visit and inspect the premises occupied by the patient with as little delay as possible and to give such instructions as to isolation and disinfection as the nature of the case may require. To those acquainted with the district, however, it must be obvious that home isolation is practically impossible, as the resources of the family are too often taxed as it is, in order to provide sleeping accommodation with a due regard for the separation of the sexes. Your Inspector makes an independent inspection on his own account and acquaints me with whatever defects his rounds of inspection may reveal. I am often indebted to your inspector for much valuable information and assistance and I desire to take this opportunity of thanking him for his ready co-operation in all matters connected with

the sanitary administration of the district
Disinfectants:- These are supplied free of charge and your inspector himself often personally superintends their use.
Disinfecting apparatus:- We have a portable disinfecting apparatus which we use on all possible occasions unless the Medical attendant certifies that the contaminated articles have been otherwise properly disinfected. All disinfection is done free of charge. The objection to the disinfecting apparatus is gradually dying out, and although it might be used oftener with advantage still as I have said we use it as frequently as we can. One of the objections to its use is that it is liable to destroy the articles disinfected. This is quite a mistake for when properly heated and managed it can cause no damage whatever.
Infected Houses:- These are cleaned and fumigated at the expense of your Authority.
Hospital accommodation:- Our hospital is built of corrugated iron and was erected in 1893. In addition to an administrative block it has three separate and distinct wards each of which is furnished with four beds. In the summer it is very comfortable and although a little cold in the winter the stoves throw off plenty of heat. High winds have rather a disturbing effect upon the patients at times as now, and again they imagine that the whole building is moving and that sooner or later it will be carried away. There is still a disinclination on the part of the people to

seek hospital relief in cases of infectious sickness, and as a rule it is mostly those cases that are likely to prove troublesome or unmanageable at home that such relief is sought for. It arises from no hostility to the hospital itself for not only the patients but all who have any knowledge of the way in which the patients are treated speak of the hospital and its management in the highest terms.

Infectious cases. There has been a large increase in the number of infectious cases during the past year with the exception of Puerperal fever, Croup and Diphtheria which are much about the same.

The following table gives all the cases that have been notified during the year:-

Scarlet fever	216
Typhoid fever	44
Erysipelas	30
Puerperal fever	2
Continued fever	2
Diphtheria	2
Croup	1
	300 Total

1898.	Typhoid		Scarlatina		Erysipelas		Croup		Diphtheria		Continued fever		Puerperal fever	
	4 Years		5 Years		5 Years		5 Years		5 Years		5 Years		5 Years	
	over	under	over	under	over	under	over	under	over	under	over	under	over	under
January	3	1	1		1				1					
February	1	1						1						
March	1		1		1									
April	2		6	2	5						1			
May	4		4	2										
June	1	2	2	1	3				1					
July	1		4	1	3									
August	4		2	4	3									
September	2		7	2	2									
October	7		19	11	4								2	
November		2	48	39	2	1					1			
December	2	1	43	24	5									
Totals.	40	7	130	86	29	1	.	1	2	.	2	.	2	.
	47		216		30		1		2		2		2	
	300													

Typhoid fever. As will be seen from the table the typhoid cases were distributed all over the district. In a large number of cases I failed to trace the disease to its source and the particulars of those arising from structural or other sanitary defects are given in the marginal notes. Some of the cases were imported from Sunderland and I am quite of opinion that many if not all of the New Penshaw cases were due to the importation of town manure into the district. I brought the

matter before your Council the other day and owing to the decided action you have taken it is to be hoped that the abominable and offensive practice will not be repeated. It should be made an indictable offence for any Corporation to send such objectionable stuff into thickly populated districts.
The cases at Hopper St. Dubmore were responsible for many of the subsequent cases that took place there. The drain in Back Hopper St. was choked up and the drain in Haswell's yard was in a very foul and offensive condition! Between a week and ten days after the drain was opened out the first case in this family occurred, making in all five cases between 29th October and 3rd December.
The Family were naturally in great distress and out of kindness of heart the neighbours assisted in the household work with the result that the infection spread to some of the adjoining families.
Had the first patient been removed to the hospital, in all probability, the rest of the family would have escaped; but this they would not agree to, and it was not until the third case occurred and when they found the boy in question was so violent and delirious that they could not manage him at home that they at last begged for his removal to the hospital where unfortunately he died three days after admission. Such cases as these, and unfortunately they are not uncommon, show how necessary it is, as much in the interest of the patient himself, as the

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Morton Grange.

Date	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Remarks
Oct. 3rd	Chas. Prentice	16	M.		Nothing
Nov. 21st	H. Smith	17	M.		"

Newbottle.

Date.	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Remarks
Jany. 14th	Mrs Cummings	4	M.		Nothing
Mar. 11th	J. Turnbull	30	M.		"
May 19th	J. Darrson	10	M.		"
June 24th	J. Miller	16	F.		House & family damp
July 5th	J. Darrson	5	F.		Nothing
Aug. 31st	J. Burnides	18	M.		"
Oct. 2nd	J. Metters	20	F.		Imported from London hand hospital.
" 29th	Eliz. Hasuele	42	F.	Home wife	Choked up drain,
"	Eliz. Hasuele	11	F.		mat offensive
Nov 19th	Mrs Ferry	8	M.		Choked up drain
22nd	J. Ferry	4	M.		Secondary
28th	R. Spears	6	M.		Nothing
Dec. 3rd	S. Hasuele	16	F.		Secondary.
6th	E. Wilkinson	4	F.		Nothing.

Penshaw.

Date.	Name.	Age.	Sex	Occupation.	Remarks.
Jany. 20th	Hy. Watts	33	M.	Miner.	Nothing.
Feby. 9th	J.A. Metters	19	F.		"
" 24th	A.A. Hartness	2½	F.		"
May. 18th	J. Frazer	16	M.		"
26th	H. Miller	26	M.		"
June 8th	D. Wallace	4	F.		Walls & floor of house damp
Aug 18th	E. Temple	12	F.		Nothing.
Sept. 19th	M. Frazer	27	M.	Miner	"

Penshaw (continued)

Date.	Name.	Age.	Sex.	Occupation.	Remarks.
Sept. 19th	E. Applegarth	14	F.		Pupil Higher Grade School
					Sunderland. house
					damp. cases there before.
Oct. 19th	J. Blanchley	30	M.		Nothing.
Nov. 5th	J. H. Dean	26	M.	Miner.	"
8th	J. W. Robinson	6	M.		"
"	S. A. Robinson	2	F.		"
12th	J. W. Tweddell	25	M.	Miner.	Choked up drain.
"	W. Thomas	23	M.	"	Nothing.
21st	J. Robinson	24	F.	House-wife	~~Con~~ Contracted from
					next door.
24th	C. Howarth	21	M.		Choked up drain
29th	M. D. Taylor	3	F.		House damp, drain
					choked up.
Dec. 4th	G. Barnes	16	F.	Servant.	Secondary.

Scarlet Fever. The great increase is chiefly in the Scarlet fever cases. We have had Scarlet fever in the district for years back and always in a more or less mild form. It was the mildness of the disease which was chiefly responsible for the epidemic from which we have not yet quite recovered. So mild indeed was the disease that in a large number of the cases the friends and others failed to recognize it so that the children were allowed to attend school and mingle with the children of others without let or hindrance. This is the true explanation of the spread of the disease and considering tha I personally investigated all the cases notified I may be considered to be in a position to judge.

During the month of December there was quite a change in the type of the disease, the cases were more severe, the eruption of a deeper colour, pointing in my judgement to the importation into the district of fresh cases.

Erysipelas. Although we have had more cases of Erysipelas this year than last there is really nothing unusual to report.

Croup. One case of Croup was reported during the year: the house was duly inspected and although badly kept there was no evidence of sanitary defect.

Diphtheria. With regard to the two houses occupied by the Diphtheria cases they were well kept although at the back of one the conformation of the land caused the water to run into the house after heavy rains.

Continued Fever. The two cases of Continued fever reported may, I think, be looked upon as cases of Typhoid fever.

Puerperal Fever. One of the two cases arose in all probability from the decomposition of the child in ~~utero~~ utero, and the other from a defective ventilator close to the back door of the patient which caused her much discomfort during her confinement.

These are all the diseases that have been notified under the Act. There are other diseases to which so far as we are concerned, the Act does not apply and which are of sufficient importance as indicating the prevailing sickness during the year as to call for some special mention.

Measles. From the first of August to the end of the year Measles was very prevalent in the

Herrington, Penshaw and Newbottle districts so much so that at one time it was almost decided to close the schools.

Whooping Cough. Whooping Cough prevailed in the same districts more or less during the greater part of the year. As a rule the fatal cases were complicated with chest affections.

Diarrhœa. We suffered as usual from an epidemic of summer Diarrhœa but it was not until the first of September when the very hot weather set in that the epidemic broke out. It ~~broke~~ prevailed very extensively all over the district. Infants and young children were most affected although the middle aged and the aged were not exempt, but in their case the sickness and vomiting were less severe and in no instance did the disease have a fatal termination.

Chicken Pox. Only two or three cases of Chicken Pox occurred in the district, one of which was of a suspicious character and I was requested to see it by the medical attendant. The case was undoubtedly one of Chicken Pox.

Influenza prevailed pretty generally all over the district in the first quarter of the year. The cases were much milder in character than in previous years. It returned again in the month of May for a short time and again in November and December.

Pneumonia. Our sickness from Pneumonia is much above the average; no doubt the severe and trying weather of the winter and spring months and the nature of the work in which almost the whole population are engaged contributed largely to this excessive sickness.

Milk. Our milk is of good average quality

and I am not aware of any convictions having been obtained for adulteration.

Meat. The animals slaughtered in the district are usually home fed and the butcher as a rule kills nothing of an inferior quality.

Proceedings however were taken against a butcher at Dubmire for offering diseased meat for sale which resulted in a conviction of £5 and costs. The meat itself was miserably poor and the lungs were literally infiltrated with Tubercles from the size of a pea upwards while the udder and lymphatics exhibited the same morbid condition. The man's subsequent conduct showed a guilty knowledge and he richly deserved what he got. We all know that an animal may suffer from Tuberculosis and yet present no symptoms by which the disease can be detected in life. Under these circumstances it would be hard to fine a respectable butcher and brand him as a seller of diseased meat who offered for sale the flesh of an animal that to all appearance was in perfect health but which after being killed showed traces of the disease. In such cases it is clearly the duty of the Legislature to compensate the butcher when the meat is destroyed. Until this is done great injustice will be inflicted upon the farmer and butcher alike and unscrupulous persons will not fail to make the best of a bad bargain and scheme and ~~manoeuvr~~ manoeuvre to sell the meat as best they can.

Food and Drugs Act. Proceedings under this Act are taken by the County Council.

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act and the Public Health Act Amendment Act 1890 are both adopted by your authority.

Drinking water:- No analysis has been taken of the water during the year, the Bacteriological examination by Professor Murray the previous year being considered sufficient for the present. Although we have never had anything like a water famine several of the villages have been seriously inconvenienced by the want of water. In these cases the water carts have been put on and the villagers themselves have got water from local springs.

Dulcmire:- Your Council took over the supply of Dulcmire from Messrs Robinsons, Bros. The various springs near to the Grace Well were connected so that the supply may now be said to be satisfactory, although I fear the pipes are old and require relaying. When this is done they should give the Sewage farm a wide berth.

Herrington East and Middle:- The Boiling Well from which these villages derived their water supply having gradually fallen off owing, as alleged, to the pumping operations at Stoney Gate. Your Council took the matter in hand and arranged with the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company for their supply.

Newbottle & Penshaw:- These villages have also suffered great inconvenience from time to time owing to the intermittent character of the water supply caused by the failure of the water at its source in the Houghton Colliery workings. Your Council have for some time back been

negotiating with the same Water Company with the result that they have agreed to supply these places with water by measure from their pumping station at Stoney Gate. The water will be conveyed to the reservoir on the Millers Hill and thence to the above places. The work will be proceeded with at once.

Town manure:- During the latter part of the year well grounded complaints were made by the people of Penshaw with regard to the unnecessary delay in unloading the trucks containing town manure. At times the stench was so dreadful that many of the inhabitants could hardly live in their houses, and as I have said there was sufficient evidence to show that in all probability many if not all of the Typhoid cases that occurred at New Penshaw were due to this state of things. Strong representation was made to the Railway Company and the farmer implicated and happily the practice has not been repeated.

Drains and Sewers:- During the summer months after periods of protracted drought the sewers are flushed from the blank end by means of a water cart provided by your Commie, but owing to the scarcity of water during the past year this was not done as often as formerly.

Over-crowding:- A few cases of overcrowding have been dealt with. The building trade is as brisk as ever and yet the demand for workmen's houses still continues owing to the large number of men employed on the collieries.

Dairies and Cowsheds:- These are regularly inspected and upon the whole no exception can be taken to the way in which they are kept, and

the ventilation and air space as a rule are in accordance with the requirements of the bye-laws.

Slaughter houses. These are also regularly inspected and immediately after the animals are slaughtered everything is at once removed to a suitable place and the premises are usually well kept.

New houses. The building trade has been unusually brisk during the year and plans were passed for 53 new houses in this division of the Union, most of which have been erected and are now inhabited.

Housing of the Working Classes Act. A notice was served upon John Tindale in respect to a house in Hobson's Yard, Newbottle.

Bye-laws. The bye-laws of the Council are under consideration with a view of having them revised and amended so as to bring them more up to date.

Infringement of bye-laws. With regard to the erection of wooden sheds at the Tilery Farm, Penshaw Staiths, in contravention ~~to~~ of your bye-laws a notice was served upon the owner which was eventually complied with.

Scavenging. There was considerable carelessness on the part of the contractors in the Philadelphia and New Herrington districts in the way in which they did their work but your Council at once wrote to the offenders through your Clerk with the result that the work, although by no means perfect, has been much improved. The other contractors did their work better and the district upon the whole may be said

to have been fairly well carried out.

Sedgeletch Sewage disposal works. On examination of the main and branch sewers now made by your inspector and your surveyor with a view of ascertaining the extent to which sewers would be bending access to the main Herrington Hall. The open drain running in front of the Hall and practically conveying all the sewage from East Herrington was done away with owing to the unpleasant smell arising from it during the summer months and proper sanitary pipes have been laid down.

In addition to the work carried out by order of your Council, the Colliery Owners have again carried out large improvements and alterations for the comfort and convenience of their workmen. Particulars of which are appended at the end of my report.

Dwellings. The streets here are still in a very unsatisfactory state and the Inspector should be called upon to put them into a proper state of repair.

Death rate. I have visited the district from time to time both alone and in conjunction with your inspector who is ready and willing at all times to co-operate in the sanitary administration of the district. All things considered our death rate is highly satisfactory. When the boring operations at East Herrington which provided the water supply of the district were to be largely supplemented about a year ago the supply

for Newbottle village and Penshaw is laid from the pumping station at Stony Gate and which is to be started with at once, the whole district will then be abundantly supplied with pure drinking water. This will be a great blessing as great inconvenience has been felt in many parts of the district owing to the interrupted nature of the supply. There is still a large volume of water running to waste close to the Grass Well. Were the various feeders connected and the water collected and stored it would prove of immense service to the district. I have now only to congratulate you, gentlemen, on the satisfactory state of the public health of the district.

I have the honour to be,
Mr Chairman & Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant

Medical Officer.

Account of improvements made to the workmens' houses, as governed by his agent ~~&c~~ belonging to the Lambton Collieries Limited, during the year ending December 1898.

Helington Row, Philadelphia.

Increased all gang ways and conductors, repaired, relaid all yard floors and altered the ashpits to enable them to be more efficiently scavenged. This was done to 34 houses. Fixed in Nos. 22 and 26 roof ventilators to improve the ventilation of the bedrooms. No. 25 – Laid kitchen floor to prevent dampness and to cure a bad smell that arose from the same.
No. 5, 20, 28 – The same work done.
" 21 Took down & refixed new kitchen ceiling.
" 32 Took up old boarded floor and relaid new one with proper ventilators let through the bottom of the floor below wood floor.
Hagan Row:- Kerbed and channelled the back street the whole length. Reformed the back street, reduced the yards to a lower level than house floors. Relaid several conveniences and ashpits. Repaired all yard floors.
Shop Row:-
No. 5 - Fixed ventilator in roof; overhauled the yard drains and relaid yard floor.
No. 12, 14, 18, 21 – Took up old floors and relaid the same with cement concrete to prevent dampness.

Strong Row - cont:-
No 2. Laid back room, passage, and kitchen floors in cement to prevent dampness.
No. 7, 8, 10. Relaid backroom floors in each house in cement to prevent dampness.
Old Success:-
No. 17, 19. Took down and replastered new ceiling and fixed new ventilator in roof for ventilation of bed-room.
Success Cottages:-
No. 13, 18, 17, 37. Laid new cement floors to prevent dampness and also yard floors.
No 20. Built two new rooms to enlarge the house, built wash house and relaid kitchen floor in cement.
Hospital loose boxes:- Built 6 large loose boxes, bath house and wash house each cement floors, to isolate any cases of disease that might arise among any of the Colliery horses and ponies; also in the new yard cemented, channelled and drained with large cesspool properly trapped and connected with main sewer and provided with best means of ventilating the same; laid water laying with large troughs &c. to water the horses; also fixed across the field a double fence, 10 feet between each fence, so as to be properly isolated from any other horses and cattle.
Lake Row:- Cemented plastered the whole of the end house in Row so as to prevent dampness.
George St. East - New Herrington.
Took out the lower part of the front wall three rows of bricks and dampness eating through and rebuilt the same the full length of the house

and pointing round all doors and windows to prevent draughts.

No. 51 - Fixed new window.

" 4 - Laid cement floor & relaid yard floor.

" 18 - Rebuilt conveniences & relaid yard floor.

Gage St. West:-

No. 38 - Taking out & fixing new window, repairing, plastering and laying new cement floors to prevent bad smell and dampness.

No. 1 - Taking down old ceiling & fixing new one.

" 7 - Relaid yard floor.

" 4 - ——— " ——— & rebuilt partition wall.

Lanton St:-

No. 15, 16 - Taken up old floor & relaid in cement.

" 56 - Taken down old ceiling & fixed new one.

" 9 - Relaid yard floor.

Fenton Terrace:-

No. 6 - Taking down & refixing new ceiling.

" 36, 40, 42 - Lowered ashpit hatches to make them easier to take the ashes out.

From 2 to 28 - Relaid yard floors and built coal house walls to prevent coals from being washed into sinks.

Single Row:- Repaired all privy walls, roofs and plastered.

No. 29 - Taken up and relaid kitchen floor in cement.

Langley St:- Repaired all privy roofs and back kitchen roofs, and the walls which were in bad repair.

Bridge Row:-

No. 9, 15, 19, 21, 23 - Taken out hatches to ashpits where the scavenger had knocked his brick work down in backing their carts to clean

out the ashes and lowered them down to the bottom.

Freeze Moor Row:-

No. 1 - Laid new cement kitchen floor.

" 2 - Replastered round the kitchen walls where the dampness had eaten away the plaster.

Old East Row:-

No. 1 - Relaid cement kitchen floor.

" 10 - " New wood front room floor.

26 houses were properly pointed and all pantry walls repaired

Old West Row:-

No. 23 - Taken up and relaid kitchen and yard floors in cement.

29 houses properly pointed and repaired thoroughly kitchen and pantry walls &c.

Catherine Terrace:-

Took up in 44 houses the yard floors and relaid the same; also repaired the privies and replastered all the back conveniences; took down long garden walls at the opposite side of the street and widened the street 5'.6" and rebuilt the wall.

No. 1 - Relaid kitchen floor in cement.

" 19 - Took down partition to make room larger for a large family.

No. 9, 10, 26 - Taken up and relaid in cement kitchen floor, passage and pantry.

No. 27 - Taken up and relaid in cement, kitchen & front room floor, passage and pantry.

Old Pembraw:- Rebuilt for a wall of coal house near to blacksmiths shop; pulled down and rebuilt 3 houses behind the "Ship Inn".

Quarry Head:-
No. 5 - Relaid kitchen floor in cement.
" 6, 7, 8 - Taken up front room and kitchen floors, and relaid the same in cement.
Barrack Row, Stoney Row:-
No. 5, 10, 16 - Took up and relaid floors in cement to prevent dampness.
Long Row:-
No. 9 - Took up and relaid floor in cement to prevent dampness.
No. 4, 8, 46 - Took up and relaid floor in cement to prevent bad smell.
No. 28 - The same work as above done, together with a roof ventilator
Bow Row:-
No. 15 - Laid new cement floor and new kitchen ceiling.
Junction Row:-
Repaired all privy and ashpit walls.
Brewster Hill:- Took up 2 old floors and relaid the same in cement at Mr. Le Barrons, to prevent dampness
The same work was done at Mr Lodge's coachman's house.
Boundary House:- Plastered in cement, back walls and also inside of finish to prevent dampness.
Newbottle:-
Mr Taylor's property, 5th Back Lane - Laid cement floors, repaired and plastered walls for dampness.
Took up and relaid 5 yard floors in Great House yard.
Cross St:- Took up & relaid yard floor, also laundry

floor in cement and fixed ventilator in roof.

Sunnyside:-

No. 1, 32 - Middle Row - Took down and refixed kitchen ceiling.

Built new subway under line to prevent children having to cross the line to school, also a large retaining wall to prevent people straying on to the line to prevent accidents.

Waggon Hill:- Raised kitchen, put on new roof, plastered the same house occupied by Paramor.

Murray's House:- Renewed part of the roof and pointed the same & built new conveniences.

Broderick's House:- Put up new ceiling up stairs and repaired conveniences.

Malcolm's House:- Built new privy.

Wood Houses:- Replaced and rehung all conveniences hatches & repaired doors & windows.

Nego Penhaw:-

Morallee's house and Chapel Row:- put in new front room floors.

Williams's house:- repaired roof and chimney.

Malcolm's house:- repaired roof & front room floor.

Stockport's house:- Pit Row. renewed pantry & floor.

Dulomire:- Cement St:- Responted 30 houses.

Hopper St:- - " - 28 - " -

Brick Yard:- Repaired the roofs of 4 houses

Motion Engine:- Took up and relaid drains to the houses.

Rainfall in 1898.
at Myre Hall, Houghton-le-Spring in the County of Durham

I am again indebted to my friend Mr. Balfour for the following particulars with regard to the Rainfall.

During the year under consideration it was 22.09 inches.

The average for the last ten years was 23.67 in.
" maximum " " " " " " 29.44 in.
" minimum " " " " " " 21.30 in.

M 3.

(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1898, in the Houghton-le-Spring Rural – Northern District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (See note 4 on back of sheet.) (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.) (a)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages. At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)	(i)	1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Continued	8 Relapsing	9 Puerperal.	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12 Measles.	13 Whooping Cough.	14 Diarrhœa and Dysentery	15 Rheumatic Fever.	16 Phthisis.	17 Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	18 Heart Disease.	19 *	20 Injuries.	21 All Other Diseases.	22 Total.
Herrington E. & M.	3	1	.	.	.	.	2	Under 5																					1	1
								5 upwds.																					2	2
Herrington West	63	20	10	2	3	14	14	Under 5		3				.			.			1	2	5		.	3	1		.	15	30
								5 upwds.		.				1			1			.	-	.		5	3	4		4	15	33
Morton Grange	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	Under 5													1								1	2
								5 upwds.													.								.	.
Newbottle	108	48	13	3	2	18	24	Under 5		4				.	.		.		.	1	4	8		1	8	1		.	34	61
								5 upwds.		.				2	1				1	.	.	1		4	8	6		3	21	47
Offerton	3	2	.	.	.	.	1	Under 5													1	1							.	2
								5 upwds.													.	.							1	1
Penshaw	67	36	7	1	4	8	11	Under 5		1		1		1			.			2	2	3		.	1	.		.	32	43
								5 upwds.		.		.		2			1			.	.	.		2	3	3		3	9	24
Silksworth	4	2	.	.	.	.	2	Under 5														1			1				.	2
								5 upwds.														.			.				2	2
Warden Law	2	1	.	.	.	.	1	Under 5																					1	1
								5 upwds.																					1	1
								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						
								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						
Totals	252	112	30	6	9	40	53	Under 5		8		1		1	.		.		.	4	10	18		1	13	2		.	84	142
								5 upwds.		.		.		5	1		2		1	.	1	1		11	14	13		10	51	110

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality. *See Note 5 on back.*

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.	11	1	.	2	.	4	4	Under 5																.	.	.		.	1	1
								5 upwds.																2	1	2		2	3	10
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5																						
								5 upwds.																						

* The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza, or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

NOTE 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each District Council.*

2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a District Council should write, in the heading of the Table, the designation of the Division for which they act.*

3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan" must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*

4. The "*Localities*" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table* (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those *registered* as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, *e.g.*, the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear in the text of the report or in supplementary tables.

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres 8.399

Population (Last Census) 13.109

" (Estimated to middle of 1898) 14.816

Death Rates.
- General 17.6 — per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1898.
- Infant (under one year of age) 220.9 — per 1,000 Births Registered.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

J. Park. *Medical Officer of Health.*

(Date) February 13th, 1899.

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11.

B)

TABLE OF **POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,** *coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year* 1898, *in the* Houghton-le-Spring Rural - Northern *District; classified according to* DISEASES, AGES *and* LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. (See Note 2 on back of sheet.) (a.)	Population at all Ages. Last Census. (b.)	Population at all Ages. Estimated to middle of 1898. (c.)	Registered Births. (d.)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e.)	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health. 1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Fevers. Continued	8 Fevers. Relapsing	9 Fevers. Puerperal	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13	Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital. 1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid	7 Fevers. Continued	8 Fevers. Relapsing	9 Fevers. Puerperal	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
Errington E. & M.	206			Under 5		25				1			.		.				.												
				5 upwds.																											
Errington West	3.426			Under 5		40				9			1		8				1												
				5 upwds.																											
Horton Grange	209			Under 5		4				.																					
				5 upwds.		1				2																					
Newbottle (H.)	5.552			Under 5		26	.			1					1									.							
				5 upwds.		54	2			14					8									3							
Offerton	287			Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
Penshaw	2.918			Under 5		20		1		5	.		.		.				.					1								
				5 upwds.		34		.		15	2		1		13				1					1							
Silksworth	426			Under 5		1													.												
				5 upwds.		1													1												
Warden Law	85			Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
				Under 5																											
				5 upwds.																											
Totals	13.109	14.816	507	Under 5		86	.	1		7	.		.		1				.					1								
				5 upwds.		130	2	.		40	2		2		29				3					4							

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District Yes. Since when? January 1890 Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any other diseases that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the locality in which such Hospital is situated; or if not within the District, state where it is situated

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. *(a)*, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of Consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*

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